



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

HOSHI, George et al.

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Group Art Unit: 2812

Serial No.: 09/893,522

NOV 07 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: June 29, 2001

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 2987

For: FLUID CONTROL DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 3, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Documents AA through AC and AF through AH were cited in a European Search Report dated February 7, 2003. A copy of the search report is also enclosed.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

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GROUP 1700

Serial No.: 09/893,522

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



Donald W. Hanson
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 27,133

Atty. Docket No. 010846
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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Enclosure: PTO1449; Search Report; 6 references